

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Michael W. Mullaney	§	Group Art Unit: 3775
	§	
Application No. 10/714,225	§	Examiner: Sevilla, Christian Anthony
	§	
Filed: November 14, 2003	§	Confirmation No.: 2542
	§	
For: METHOD FOR USING A FIXATOR	§	Docket No. 42620.17
DEVICE	§	
	§	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The present paper is being submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed March 31, 2010.

The Office Action identified two initial inventions:

Group I, including claims 1-16, drawn to a method; and

Group II, including claims 17 and 18, drawn to a product.

Applicants elect Group I, including claims 1-16 for examination on the merits.

The Office Action further restricts Group I into two additional groups:

Group I-A, including claims 1-7, drawn to a method; and

Group I-B, including claims 8-16, drawn to a method.

Applicants elect Group I-B, including claims 8-16 for examination on the merits.

This selection between groups I-A and I-B is made with traverse because at least some aspects of the search conducted for the examination of Group I-B would also be applicable to Group I-A, and would present no serious burden to the examiner. For example, since some of

the subject matter of Group I-A is also recited in dependent claims of Group I-B, examination of both groups should present no additional burden on the examiner.

It is believed that the application is in condition for further consideration on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 972-739-6969.

No fees, including extension of time fees, are believed necessary for consideration of the present paper. However, if any fees, including extension of time fees are necessary, Applicants hereby petition for the extension of time, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, including those for the extension of time, to Haynes and Boone, LLP's Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,

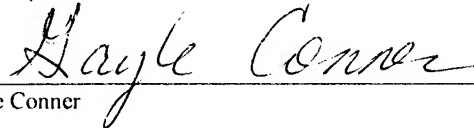


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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web on April 27, 2010.



Gayle Conner